# TRONOX

September 5, 2008

Mr. Bill Ryan US EPA Region X 1200 Sixth Avenue – ECL-113 Seattle, WA 98101



Re: August 2008 Monthly Report

## Dear Mr. Ryan:

This letter serves as the monthly progress report for August 2008, in accordance with Section X, Paragraph 29 of the RD/RA Consent Decree for the Tronox site, in Soda Springs, Idaho.

# **August Activities**

The calcine cap and landfill facilities were inspected in August. The cover surfaces on both facilities are in good condition, with minimal disturbance from digging animals. Weed control will be required on the cap to manage some tap-rooted plants that have recently established. The landfill was pumped in August to a nearby concrete holding pond to maintain the minimal level on the landfill liner. The gates on both facilities are closed and locked and the fences are in good condition.

The 10-acre pond was inspected and the water level was measured. The 10-acre pond contains about 8 inches of water. The 10-acre pond was pumped within containment to surrounding beach areas to enhance evaporative effects and reduce the level of the pond.

The draft ground water monitoring evaluation report was delivered to you by the due date of August 1, 2008. EPA comments made to the draft work plan on July 16, 2008 were primarily directed at requested changes to the work plan and the evaluation of the remedy, and therefore draft work plan comments did not appear to impact the content of the draft monitor well network evaluation report. Field work for the remedy inspection activities was also completed in August. Field work included inspections of the remedial actions at the site, and other site features as detailed in the work plan. Results of these inspections will be incorporated in the draft remedy review report.

Two conference calls, one on August 7 and on August 27, were held between EPA and EPA's contractors, IDEQ, and Tronox and contractors regarding resolution of the EPA comments of July 17, 2008 to the May 16, 2008 draft Work Plan. These comments were resolved on August 28 through your correspondence that included the meeting notes summary.

USEPA SF 1340050

#### September/October 2008 Activities

During the months of September and October, Tronox will continue to monitor the cap, landfill and the 10-acre pond. Tronox will continue to accelerate evaporation from the 10-acre pond within containment as weather permits.

Tronox will provide EPA with agreed-upon changes to the draft work plan. It is contemplated that a revised work plan will be finished and transmitted to EPA by September 11, 2008. During September, Tronox will continue to work on the draft remedy evaluation report, currently scheduled for delivery as a draft on October 1, 2008 as specified in Table 1 of Section 4 of the Addendum 1 to the SOW. A request for an extension of time for the delivery date of the draft remedy evaluation report may be appropriate, considering the timing for the re-submittal of the work plan in mid-September and that the monitor well network evaluation report has not yet been reviewed due to the delay with work plan re-submittal.

During October, the second round of ground and surface water samples will be collected and analyzed. This round will include field DO and ORP measurements. Additional analytical parameters will include dissolved iron and manganese, silica, total organic carbon and ammonia. Wells KM-1 and KM-10 will also be sampled using low-flow methods.

No community relation activities are planned for this period.

## Problems or Delays

No delays are expected.

If you have any questions about the work or additional information is required with regards to the work described above, please contact me at (208) 547-3331, extension 233, or (b) (6) (cell).

Sincerely,

Tronox Inc.

Boyd Schvaneveldt

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